Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented) A purified protein isolated from the leech species Hirudinaria manillensis having the biological activity of a hyaluronidase which is not influenced in its activity by heparin, characterized in that it has a molecular weight of 53 – 60 kD dependent on glycosylation.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) A glycosylated protein according to claim 1 having a molecular weight of 58 (±2) kD.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) A non-glycosylated protein according to claim 1 having a molecular weight of $54 (\pm 2)$ kD.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) A protein according to claim 1 having an isoelectric point of 7.2 - 8.0.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) A protein according to claim 1 having the amino acid sequence given in Fig. 7 (SEQ ID No. 1NO:1)

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) A protein according to claim 1 having a specific enzymatic activity of > 100 kU / mg protein.

MERCK-2332

- Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A process for isolating and purifying the protein of claim 1 comprising:
- (i) homogenization of heads of leeches of the species *Hirudinaria manillensis* with an acid buffer and centrifugation,
 - (ii) ammonium sulfate precipitation of the supernatant of step (i),
 - (iii) cation exchange chromatography,
 - (iv) concanavalin A affinity chromatography,
 - (v) hydrophobic interaction chromatography,
 - (vi) affinity chromatography on matrices coated with hyaluronic acid fragments, and
 - (vii) gel permeation chromatography,
- Claim 8 (Previously Presented) A protein having the biological activity of a hyaluronidase which is not influenced in its activity by heparin and having a molecular weight of 53 60 kD dependent on glycosylation, obtainable by the process steps of claim 7.
- Claim 9 (Original) A protein according to claim 8 having a specific enzymatic activity of > 100 kU / mg protein.
- Claim 10 (Original) A DNA sequence coding for a protein of claim 1.
- Claim 11 (Previously Presented) A DNA sequence coding for a protein of claim 8 comprising a nucleotide sequence depicted in Fig. 8 (SEQ. ID NO: 2), Fig. 9 (SEQ. ID NO: 4) or Fig.10 (SEQ ID NO: 6).
- Claim 12 (Original) A recombinant protein having the biological activity of a hyaluronidase encoded by any a DNA sequence of claim 11.

- Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A recombinant protein with the biological activity of a hyaluronidase and a molecular weight of 55 59 kD dependent on glycosylation having an amino acid sequence with at least 80% 94% homology to SEQ ID NO:3.
- Claim 14 (Original) An expression vector comprising a DNA sequence of claim 10.
- Claim 15 (Previously Presented) A host cell suitable for the expression of a protein of claim 12 which was transformed with a vector comprising a DNA sequence for a protein comprising a nucleotide sequence depicted in Fig. 8 (SEQ. ID NO: 2), Fig. 9 (SEQ. ID NO: 4) or Fig. 10 (SEQ ID NO: 6).
- Claim 16 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a protein of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, carrier, or excipient therefor.
- Claim 17 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the protein of claim 22 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, carrier or excipient therefor.
- Claim 18 (Cancelled)
- Claim 19 (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, further comprising heparin.
- Claim 20 (Previously Presented) A method of treating myocardial, cardiovascular and thrombotic disorders and tumors in a subject, comprising administering to-a subject in need of a protein of claim 1 to said subject.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) A process of claim 7, further comprising:

(viii) enzymatic or chemical de-glycosylation of the purified protein.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) A protein of claim 1 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) A protein of claim 1 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) A protein of claim 1 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.

Claim 25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) A protein of claim 13, having at least 96% homology to SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented) A protein of claim 13, having at least 97% homology to SEQ ID NO: 3.